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09/978,452	10/17/2001	Michael Ficco	PD-201129	5121

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EXAMINER
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CHOWDHURY, SUMAIYA A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2421

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 09/978,452	<b>Applicant(s)</b> FICCO, MICHAEL	
	<b>Examiner</b> SUMAIYA A. CHOWDHURY	<b>Art Unit</b> 2421	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 October 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-52 and 54-56 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-52 and 54-56 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)          | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114 was filed in this application after a decision by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, but before the filing of a Notice of Appeal to the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit or the commencement of a civil action. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114 and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the appeal has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114 and prosecution in this application has been reopened pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 10/10/08 has been entered.

### ***Response to Arguments***

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-52, and 54-56 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Art Unit: 2421

4. Claims 1-5, 7-8, 11, 13-15, 27-31, 33-34, 37, 39-41 and 54-56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Galipeau (6249913) in view of Ekkel (US 2001/0037360)

As for claims 1 and 27, Galipeau discloses a system and method for aircraft multimedia distribution, comprising:

a multimedia server (190, 194, 196 – Fig. 9a) provided within an aircraft of an airline - col. 10, lines 46-65; and

a multimedia communications network (20 & 186 – Fig. 9a) within said aircraft coupled to said multimedia server – col. 10, lines 30-40; and

wherein said multimedia server is configured to distribute, over said aircraft multimedia communications network, multimedia in-flight to a device (226 – Fig. 12) of a passenger (col. 10, lines 46-65, lines 6-10, lines 50-53, col. 9, lines 25-30, col. 11, lines 1-3), the multimedia being selected via a web server (internet server 192 – Fig. 12) in communication with the multimedia server (The passenger selects content to view from the internet server - col. 7, lines 18-27. Referring to Fig. 9A, the web server is clearly in communication with the multimedia server.).

However, Galipeau fails to disclose:

The multimedia being selected, pre-flight, for purchase via a web server coupled to the multimedia server.

In an analogous art, Ekkel teaches:

The user selects and purchases multimedia prior to boarding a flight. Furthermore, the multimedia is downloaded from a web server (repository 10, [0031]) to the multimedia server (storage medium 20).-[0057]-[0059].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify Galipeau's invention to include the above mentioned limitation, as taught by Ekkel, for the advantage of allowing a traveling individual off-line access to information content normally available on-line.

As for claims 2 and 28, Galipeau and Ekkel disclose the claimed limitations. In particular, Galipeau discloses wherein said multimedia comprises one of streaming video, streaming audio, video for download, audio for download, data, sports and statistics (Video and audio programming is inclusive of streaming video, streaming audio, video for download, audio for download, and data. - col. 10, lines 8-10, lines 51-52, col. 11, lines 25-26).

As for claims 3 and 29, Galipeau and Ekkel disclose the claimed limitations. In particular, Galipeau discloses wherein said device is a laptop computer (226 – Fig. 12, col. 11, lines 55-56, col. 6, lines 65-66).

As for claims 4 and 30, Galipeau and Ekkel disclose the claimed limitations. In particular, Galipeau discloses wherein said multimedia communications network

Art Unit: 2421

comprises is an IEEE 1394 communications network (Referring to Fig. 12, the network between network controller (186) and network interface card (228) is an IEEE 1394 communications network - col. 10, lines 30-35)

As for claims 5 and 31, Galipeau and Ekkel disclose the claimed limitations. In particular, Galipeau discloses wherein said multimedia server (190 – Fig. 12) is configured to distribute said multimedia in-flight to said device (226 – Fig. 12) of said passenger via a network interface device (228 – Fig. 12) coupled between said device of said passenger and said multimedia communications network (To communicate with any aircraft server, the data must go through the network interface device - col. 10, lines 47-60).

As for claims 7 and 33, Galipeau and Ekkel disclose the claimed limitations. In particular, Galipeau discloses wherein said network interface device is one of proprietary and specific to said airline - col. 12, lines 26-31.

As for claims 8 and 34, Galipeau and Ekkel disclose the claimed limitations. In particular, Galipeau discloses wherein said multimedia server is configured to distribute said multimedia in-flight to said device of said passenger via software device (software program) stored on said device of said passenger (226 – Fig. 12); (Using the software program on the personal computer, the user communicates with the headend controller

Art Unit: 2421

which comprises of the multimedia server. The user requests and receives multimedia - col. 11, line 50 - col. 12, line 30).

As for claims 11 and 37, Galipeau and Ekkel disclose the claimed limitations. In particular, Galipeau discloses wherein said multimedia server is configured to distribute simultaneously said multimedia in multiple streams to said device of said passenger – col. 9, lines 25-37, col. 10, line 64 – col. 11, line 3.

As for claims 13 and 39, Galipeau and Ekkel disclose the claimed limitations. In particular, Galipeau discloses an airline server (192– Fig. 9a) coupled to said multimedia server (190 – Fig. 9a) via a server communications network (100 BaseT) and configured to transmit, over said server communications network, said multimedia to said multimedia server (col. 10, lines 46-60, col. 12, lines 36-41).

As for claims 14 and 40, Galipeau and Ekkel disclose the claimed limitations. In particular, Galipeau discloses wherein said airline server (192 – Fig. 9a) is configured to communicate with said device (226 – Fig. 12) of said passenger via a passenger communications network (network between 192 and 226 in Fig. 12) to provide preflight functions with respect to the in-flight multimedia distribution (col. 10, lines 58-60, col. 11, line 65 – col. 12, line 25).

As for claims 15 and 41, Galipeau and Ekkel disclose the claimed limitations. In particular, Galipeau discloses wherein said passenger communications network comprises the Internet – col. 12, lines 12-20.

As for claim 54, Galipeau discloses a system for aircraft multimedia distribution, comprising:

means (aircraft) for providing a multimedia server (190, 194, 196 – Fig. 9a) within an aircraft of an airline - col. 10, lines 46-65; and

means (IEEE 1394 – Fig. 12) for coupling a multimedia communications network (20 & 186 – Fig. 9a) within said aircraft to said multimedia server – col. 10, lines 30-40; and

means (228 – Fig. 12) for distributing, via said multimedia server, over said aircraft multimedia communications network, multimedia in-flight to a device (226 – Fig. 12) of a passenger for viewing by said passenger (col. 10, lines 46-65, lines 6-10, lines 50-53, col. 9, lines 25-30, col. 11, lines 1-3) the multimedia being selected via a web server (internet server 192 – Fig. 12) in communication with the multimedia server (The passenger selects content to view from the internet server - col. 7, lines 18-27.

Referring to Fig. 9A, the web server is clearly in communication with the multimedia server.).

However, Galipeau fails to disclose:

The multimedia being selected, pre-flight, for purchase via a web server coupled to the multimedia server.



In an analogous art, Ekkel teaches:

The user selects and purchases multimedia prior to boarding a flight.

Furthermore, the multimedia is downloaded from a web server (repository 10, [0031]) to the multimedia server (storage medium 20).-[0057]-[0059].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify Galipeau's invention to include the above mentioned limitation, as taught by Ekkel, for the advantage of allowing a traveling individual off-line access to information content normally available on-line.

As for claim 55, Galipeau discloses:

Accessing a multimedia server (190, 194, 196 – Fig. 9a) over a communications network (20 & 186 – Fig. 9a) within an aircraft – col. 10, lines 30-40, lines 46-65;  
Displaying a menu of options corresponding to a plurality of multimedia (User is presented with a number of videos to select from – col. 9, lines 28-33);

Receiving the corresponding one of the plurality of multimedia over the communications network – col. 10, lines 46-65, lines 6-10, lines 50-53, col. 9, lines 25-30, col. 11, lines 1-3.

However, Galipeau fails to disclose:

The multimedia being selected, pre-flight, one of the options for purchase of a corresponding one of the plurality of multimedia via a web server coupled to the multimedia server.

In an analogous art, Ekkel teaches:

The user selects and purchases multimedia prior to boarding a flight.

Furthermore, the multimedia is downloaded from a web server (server 10, [0031]) to the multimedia server (storage medium 20).-[0057]-[0059].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify Galipeau's invention to include the above mentioned limitation, as taught by Ekkel, for the advantage of allowing a traveling individual off-line access to information content normally available on-line.

As for claim 56, Galipeau, and Ekkel disclose the claimed limitations. In particular, Ekkel discloses the web server (10, [0031]) is resident within a data network (internet) different from the communications network (network 30) – [0038].

5. Claims 6 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Galipeau and Ekkel as applied to claims 5 and 31 above, and further in view of Humpleman (5579308).

As for claims 6 and 32, Galipeau discloses wherein the network interface device (228 – Fig. 12) is plug-in (col. 12, lines 1-7), but fails to disclose wherein said multimedia is encrypted, and said network interface device is a custom device configured to decrypt said multimedia.

Art Unit: 2421

In an analogous art, Humpleman discloses wherein the network interface device (50 – Fig. 4) decrypts multimedia received in the program stream – col. 7, lines 60-65. As the program stream is decrypted, it is encrypted when received.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify Galipeau and Ekkel 's invention to include wherein the network interface device decrypts the encrypted multimedia stream received, as taught by Humpleman, for the advantage of only allowing the intended recipient to unscramble the stream.

6. Claims 9 and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Galipeau and Ekkel as applied to claim 8 and 34 above, and further in view of Schwab (6353699).

As for claims 9 and 35, Galipeau fails to disclose wherein said multimedia is compressed, and said software device is a custom software device configured to decompress said multimedia.

In an analogous art, Schwab discloses wherein the custom software decompresses multimedia for the advantage of opening a file which is compressed for saving space– col. 4, lines 44-48. As the multimedia needs to be decompressed, it is compressed when received.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify Galipeau and Ekkel 's invention to include wherein the

Art Unit: 2421

custom software decompresses multimedia, as taught by Scwab, for the advantage of opening a file which is compressed for saving space.

7. Claims 10 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Galipeau and Ekkel as applied to claim 8 and 34 above, and further in view of Ahmad (5565908).

As for claims 10 and 36, Galipeau fails to disclose wherein said software device is specific to said airline.

In an analogous art, Ahmad discloses wherein the software is proprietary (specific to the airline) for the advantage of enabling the system to operate – col. 11, lines 27-30.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify Galipeau and Ekkel 's invention to include wherein the software is proprietary, as taught by Ahmad, for the advantage of enabling the system which is specific to the software to operate.

8. Claims 12 and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Galipeau and Ekkel as applied to claim 11 and 37 above, and further in view of Rosin (6028600).

Art Unit: 2421

As for claims 12 and 38, Galipeau and Ekkel fail to disclose wherein said multimedia server is configured to provide a menu on said device of said passenger for selection of one or more of said multiple streams of said multimedia.

In an analogous art, Rosin discloses wherein the menu of channels from which a user selects a multimedia stream from, is provided by the server (headend) – col. 5, lines 51-56, 64-67, col. 7, lines 13-25.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify Galipeau and Ekkel's invention to include wherein the menu of channels from which a user selects a multimedia stream from, is provided by the server, as taught by Rosin, for the advantage of having everything at the headend such that less power and space is consumed at the receiver.

9. Claims 16 and 42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Galipeau and Ekkel as applied to claim 14 and 40 above, and further in view of McCarten (5959596).

As for claims 16 and 42, Galipeau and Ekkel fail to disclose wherein said pre-flight function comprises downloading of a software device to enable said in-flight distribution of said multimedia.

In an analogous art, McCarten discloses wherein application software (software device) is downloaded to the client for the advantage of enabling the client to access multimedia content on an aircraft – col. 4, lines 7-12, col. 1, lines 53-60.

Art Unit: 2421

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify Galipeau and Ekkel's invention to include wherein application software (software device) is downloaded to the client, as taught by McCarten, for the advantage of enabling the client to access multimedia content on an aircraft.

10. Claims 17 and 43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Galipeau and Ekkel as applied to claim 16 and 42 above, and further in view of Ahmad (5565908).

As for claims 17 and 43, Galipeau and Ekkel fail to disclose wherein said software device is one of proprietary and specific to said airline.

In an analogous art, Ahmad discloses wherein the software is proprietary for the advantage of enabling the system to operate – col. 11, lines 27-30.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify Galipeau and Ekkel's invention to include wherein the software is proprietary, as taught by Ahmad, for the advantage of enabling the system which is specific to the software to operate.

11. Claims 18-21 and 44-47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Galipeau and Ekkel as applied to claims 13, 18, 39, and 44 above, and further in view of Volpe (2001/0032028)

As for claims 18 and 44, Galipeau and Ekkel fail to disclose wherein said airline server is configured to communicate with said device of said passenger via a passenger communications network to provide post-flight functions with respect to the in-flight multimedia distribution.

In an analogous art, Volpe discloses wherein the server offers the capability to the user to have the file mailed - paragraph [0024].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify Galipeau and Ekkel's invention to include wherein the server offers the capability to the user to have the file mailed, as taught by Volpe, for the advantage of allowing the user to have a multimedia file stored on a removable storage device such that the user could use the removable storage device on a plurality of computers.

As for claims 19 and 45, Galipeau and Ekkel fail to disclose wherein said post-flight functions comprise organizing said multimedia for selection by said passenger.

In an analogous art, Volpe discloses wherein a multimedia file is sent to a client (32 – Fig. 4; passenger) – paragraph [0024]

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify Galipeau and Ekkel 's invention to include wherein a multimedia file is sent to a client, as taught by Volpe, for the advantage of allowing a client to have a personal copy saved on their own device on an aircraft.

As for claims 20 and 46, Galipeau and Ekkel fail to disclose wherein said airline server is configured to provide copies of said multimedia to said passenger on a CD ROM based on a selection by said passenger.

In an analogous art, Volpe discloses wherein a CD ROM on which multimedia is stored, is mailed to the client – paragraph [0024].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify Galipeau and Ekkel's invention to include wherein a CD ROM on which multimedia is stored, is mailed to the client, as taught by Volpe, for the advantage of allowing the user to have a multimedia file stored on a removable storage device such that the user could use the removable storage device on a plurality of computers.

As for claims 21 and 47, Galipeau and Ekkel fail to disclose wherein said airline server is configured to provide copies of said multimedia to said passenger via download to said device of said passenger based on a selection by said passenger.

In an analogous art, Volpe discloses wherein a multimedia file is sent to a client (32 – Fig. 4; passenger) through the Internet or as an attachment to an email– paragraph [0024]

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify Galipeau and Ekkel's invention to include wherein a



Art Unit: 2421

multimedia file is sent to a client, as taught by Volpe, for the advantage of allowing a client to have a personal copy saved on their own device on an aircraft.

12. Claims 22-24 and 48-50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Galipeau and Ekkel as applied to claims 1, 22, 27, and 48 above, and further in view of Neel (5838314).

As for claims 22 and 48, Galipeau and Ekkel fail to disclose wherein said multimedia server is configured to store passenger-specific information relating to multimedia selection history for said passenger.

In an analogous art, Neel discloses wherein the data base (212 – Fig. 2; server) stores the video services (passenger-specific information) utilized by the user for the advantage of providing advertisements related to the video services selected by the user – col. 18, lines 31-42.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify Galipeau and Ekkel's invention to include wherein the data base (212 – Fig. 2; server) stores the video services utilized by the user, as taught by Neel, for the advantage of providing advertisements related to the video services selected by the user.

As for claims 23 and 49, Galipeau and Ekkel fail to disclose wherein said multimedia server is configured to distribute said multimedia based on said passenger-specific information.

In an analogous art, Neel discloses wherein the system distributes user-specific advertisements based on past video services selection history (passenger specific information) for the advantage of providing advertisements geared more towards the preferences of the user – col. 18, lines 30-42.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify Galipeau and Ekkel's invention to include wherein the system distributes user-specific advertisements based on past video services selection history, as taught by Neel, for the advantage of providing advertisements geared more towards the preferences of the user.

As for claims 24 and 50, Galipeau and Ekkel fail to disclose wherein said multimedia server is configured to distribute passenger-specific advertisements included in said multimedia based on said passenger-specific information.

In an analogous art, Neel discloses wherein the systems control computer (118 – Fig. 2; server) selects and transmits advertisements based on information accumulated about the video services utilized by the user for the advantage of providing advertisements geared more towards the preferences of the user - col. 18, lines 30-42.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify Galipeau and Ekkel's invention to include wherein the

Art Unit: 2421

systems control computer (118 – Fig. 2; server) selects and transmits advertisements based on information accumulated about the video services utilized by the user, as taught by Neel, for the advantage of providing advertisements geared more towards the preferences of the user.

13. Claims 25, 26, 51, and 52, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Galipeau and Ekkel in view of Neel as applied to claim 22, 24, 48, and 50 above, respectively, and further in view of Dedrick (5724521).

As for claims 25 and 51, Galipeau, Ekkel and Neel fail to disclose wherein said passenger-specific information is provided to said airline as a new marketable asset.

In an analogous art, Dedrick discloses wherein the user profile data based on the monitoring of consumer actions and inactions is provided to the advertiser to collect fees of displaying commercials for the advantage of displaying commercials to the user which are of user's interests – col. 3, lines 64-67, col. 5, lines 1-5, lines 20-30.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify Galipeau, Ekkel, and Neel's invention to include wherein the user profile data based on the monitoring of consumer actions and inactions is provided to the advertiser to collect fees of displaying commercials, as taught by Dedrick, for the advantage of displaying commercials to the user which are of user's interests

As for claims 26 and 52, Galipeau, Ekkel and Neel fail to disclose wherein said advertisements are provided to said airline as part of a co-marketing agreement.

In an analogous art, Dedrick discloses wherein the advertisements are provided to a metering server (14 – Fig. 1) – col. 5, lines 9-15. As discussed above in claim 25, there is a co-marketing agreement as the user profile data is provided to the advertiser to collect fees for displaying commercials.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify Galipeau, Ekkel and Neel's invention to include wherein the advertisements are provided to a metering server as part of a co-marketing agreement, as taught by Dedrick, for the advantage of deriving money from advertisers.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SUMAIYA A. CHOWDHURY whose telephone number is (571)272-8567. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 9-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Miller can be reached on (571) 272-7353. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2421

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/John W. Miller/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2421

/Sumaiya A Chowdhury/  
Examiner, Art Unit 2421